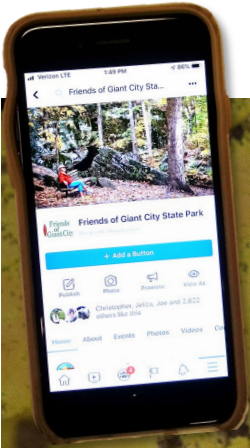


New programs are added
throughout the year!
For an updated list, visit the
Friends of Giant City Facebook site.



www.facebook.com/friendsofgiantcity



<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Parks/Pages/GiantCity.aspx>



Giant City State Park

September-December
2022 Programs



Giant City State Park
235 Giant City Road
Makanda, IL 62958
618-457-4836



September

Journey of the Monarch

Entire Month of September

Every fall thousands of Monarch butterflies migrate south to Central Mexico! Giant City State Park is a great stopping point for these small creatures. Come out and help the University of Kansas track these insects by participating in a tagging program. Anytime between 8am-2pm, stop by the Visitors Center for a quick tutorial on the Monarch butterfly, the correct way to catch them and, ideas on where to find them in the park. After the tutorial, head out to the field to try your hand at catching a Monarch or two. Bring your Monarchs back to the Visitor Center to tag and release. Nets, butterfly cages, instructions and tags will all be provided. **Please call the Giant City Visitors Center at 618-457-4836 to reserve your spot.**

Which Grass is Which?

Thursday, September 22, 10-11:30

Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension on a hike to learn tips and tricks to help you identify warm-season grasses in southern Illinois. **Registration is required.**

Campfire at the Park

Saturday, September 17, 6-7:30pm

Join campfire program veteran "Short Face Bear" for interactive fun, music, and stories with an appreciation for nature, the timeless space of campfire, and our wonderful Giant City State Park. **Registration is required.**

Bats of Giant City

Friday, September 30, 6-8pm

University of Illinois Wildlife Extension Specialist, Joy O'Keefe, knows bats and what better place to learn about our furry friends than Giant City State Park! We will begin with a short talk and then walk a trail with acoustic bat detectors. **Registration is required.**

October

How to Get Over Your Fear of Snakes

Saturday, October 1, 10-11:00am

For many people, encountering a snake can be a frightening experience. Join Jeremy Schumacher, Forester and reptile enthusiast, as he discusses these often misunderstood creatures. This program will be held in a controlled and self-paced environment with a variety of live species. **Registration is required.**

Trek N' Treat

Saturday, October 29, 1-3pm

Come to Giant City as we kick off Halloween in the park! Hike the Devil's Standtable trail for an easy, self-guided hike through the beautiful forest. Along the trail your family will meet our creature characters who will teach you about some of the wonderful and most misunderstood creatures that call Giant City home! Treats for all of the hikers! Trail is roughly 1/3 of a mile, and will take 20-30 minutes. No registration required. Arrive at the Devil's Standtable Trail anytime between 1 and 2:30.

November

What Snake is That?

Saturday, November 19, 1-2pm

It's a Copperhead.....or, is it? It may be chilly out but spring will be here before we know it! Join biologist John Palis as we get a jumpstart on warmer weather by learning how to identify our southern Illinois reptile friends. **Registration is required.**

December

Illinois Botanizer's Best of Illinois Nature 2022

Sunday, December 5, 2-3pm

Botanist Chris Benda (aka Illinois Botanizer) travels throughout Illinois every year, visiting nature preserves, leading nature tours for the public, and encountering all kinds of neat plants and animals. Join him as he presents photographs highlighting his best nature encounters of 2021. **Registration is required.**

Art in the Park

Saturday, May 28, 1-3pm

What better setting than outdoors at Giant City State Park to get creative and learn how to watercolor paint! Join local artist, Anne Krippenstapel, for a leisurely afternoon of creating art inspired by nature. This is a free program and all supplies will be provided. **Registration is required.**